IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA RICHMOND DIVISION

FRED HANEY, MARSHA MERRILL,	
SYLVIA RAUSCH, STEPHEN SWENSON,)	
and ALAN WOOTEN, Individually and on)	
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,)	
Plaintiffs,	Civil Action No. 3:22-cv-00055-REP
vs.	CLASS ACTION
GENWORTH LIFE INSURANCE	<u>CLASS NC ITON</u>
COMPANY and GENWORTH LIFE	
INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW	
YORK,	
Defendants.	

JOINT RESPONSE TO GARY DAVIS'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO CALL KATHRYN DIMIDUK AS A WITNESS BY WAY OF ZOOM AT THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING ON DECEMBER 13, 2022

Pursuant to the Court's December 6, 2022 Order (ECF No. 114), Named Plaintiffs and Defendants (collectively, the "Parties") jointly submit this response to Gary Davis's Motion for Leave to Call Kathryn Dimiduk as a Witness by way of Zoom at the Final Approval Hearing on December 13, 2022 (ECF No. 113).

At the Final Approval Hearing, Mr. Davis raised an objection that he received a rate action letter *after* the Court had preliminarily approved the Settlement, but *before* he received Notice of that proposed Settlement. The Court thereafter ordered the Parties to submit further briefing *on that issue*. In his Supplemental Responsive Brief, however, Mr. Davis purports to

¹ The Court Order required the Parties and Mr. Davis to submit supplemental briefs, "[t]o resolve the objection regarding rate increase letters between preliminary approval of the settlement agreement and the mailing of notice made by Mr. Gary M. Davis, esquire, on behalf of himself and Lorrianne Friedlander…." ECF No 98, at ¶1

expand the scope of this objection (which he advanced for the first time not in his written objection (ECF No. 61) but rather at the Final Approval Hearing) to argue that Policyholders who received a rate action notice *at any time* after this lawsuit was first filed were potentially harmed by not having notice of a tentative Settlement (that had not even been fully negotiated or signed by the Parties until March 31, 2022 and not preliminarily approved by the Court until May 2, 2022). (ECF No. 110.) The Parties will address Mr. Davis's purported expanded objection in their reply filing due tomorrow, December 8. (*See* ECF No. 98 ¶ 1(d).)

Now, Mr. Davis also asks the Court to allow him to present the testimony of Kathryn Dimiduk, a Class Member who was sent a rate action letter one month *before* this Court granted preliminary approval of the Settlement. (*See* ECF No. 102 (Ms. Dimiduk's Supplemental Objection) at 1 (referencing Ms. Dimiduk's April 1, 2022 rate action letter) *compared to* ECF No. 31 (May 2, 2022 Preliminary Approval Order).) The Parties do not believe that Ms. Dimiduk's testimony is relevant to Mr. Davis's purported objection or within the scope of the issue framed by the Court's Order. (*See* ECF No. 98 ¶ 1(b)-(d) (framing the issue as concerning Class Members who received rate action letters between Preliminary Approval and Class Notice).)

Nevertheless, the Parties do not oppose Ms. Dimiduk appearing at the December 13, 2022 Hearing via Zoom, nor do they oppose Mr. Davis offering her testimony for the limited purpose of supporting his objection. The Parties do request that the Court require Mr. Davis, by December 9, 2022, to inform the Parties of (a) what testimony Ms. Dimiduk is expected to offer at the Final Approval Hearing, (b) whether Mr. Davis (who is a Pennsylvania attorney) represents Ms. Dimiduk, and (c) whether any separate or additional counsel will be representing Mr. Davis or Ms. Dimiduk in connection with their objections. The Parties respectfully request

this information so that they can be adequately prepared for Ms. Dimiduk's testimony that Mr.

Davis will elicit. If Mr. Davis's request is granted, the Parties also reserve the right to cross-examine Ms. Dimiduk at the Final Approval Hearing.

DATED: December 7, 2022 Respectfully submitted,

s/ Jonathan M. Petty
PHELAN PETTY PLC
JONATHAN M. PETTY, VSB No. 43100
BRIELLE M. HUNT, VSB No. 87652
3315 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23230
Tel: (804) 980-7100

Fax: (804) 767-4601 jpetty@phelanpetty.com bhunt@phelanpetty.com

GOLDMAN SCARLATO & PENNY, P.C. BRIAN DOUGLAS PENNY (pro hac vice) Eight Tower Bridge, Suite 1025 161 Washington Street Conshohocken, PA 19428 Tel: (484) 342-0700 Fax: (484) 342-0701

Fax: (484) 342-0701 penny@lawgsp.com

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP STUART A. DAVIDSON (pro hac vice) BRADLEY BEALL (pro hac vice) 120 East Palmetto Park Road, Suite 500 Boca Raton, FL 33432

Tel: (561) 750-3000 Fax: (561) 750-3364

BERGER MONTAGUE PC GLEN L. ABRAMSON (pro hac vice) 1818 Market Street, Suite 3600 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel: (215) 875-3000 Fax: (215) 875-4604

Fax: (215)875-4604 gabramson@bm.net

Class Counsel

DATED: December 7, 2022

/s/ Brian E. Pumphrey

MCGUIREWOODS LLP

BRIAN C. RIOPELLE (VSB No. 36454)

BRIAN E. PUMPHREY (VSB No. 47312)

HEIDI E. SIEGMUND (VSB No. 89569)

Gateway Plaza

800 East Canal Street

Richmond, VA 23219

Tel: (804) 775-1000

Fax: (804) 775-1061

briopelle@mcguirewoods.com

bpumphrey@mcguirewoods.com

hsiegmund@mcguirewoods.com

DENTONS US LLP

REID L. ASHINOFF (pro hac vice)

DREW MARROCCO (VSB No. 38955)

MICHAEL J. DUVALL (pro hac vice)

CATHARINE LUO (pro hac vice)

SAMANTHA FAHR (pro hac vice)

HALEY GRISSOM (pro hac vice)

1221 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10020

Tel: (212) 768-6700

Fax: (212) 768-6800

reid.ashinoff@dentons.com

drew.marrocco@dentons.com

michael.duvall@dentons.com

catharine.luo@dentons.com

samantha.fahr@dentons.com

haley.grissom@dentons.com

Counsel for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 7th day of December 2022, I caused the foregoing to be electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF System, which will send a notification of such filing to all counsel of record. I also caused the foregoing to be sent by email and overnight delivery to Mr. Davis at the following address:

Gary Davis 124 Lancaster Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15228 Email: gmdavislaw@gmail.com

w @ gillali.com

/s/ Jonathan M. Petty
PHELAN PETTY PLC
JONATHAN M. PETTY, VSB No.
43100
3315 West Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23230
Tel: (804) 980-7100
Fax: (804) 767-4601

Class Counsel

jpetty@phelanpetty.com